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SOURCE

1. During recent conversations with a friend, King Mihai of Romania commented at length on the Romanian National Committee and its activities. A summary of the King's remarks is given below.
2. Mihai was particularly concerned about General Nicolae Rădescu, President of the Committee. He spoke of the history of the Committee, and the fact that he had chosen Rădescu as titular head because of his lack of a distinct political affiliation and his stature as a Romanian patriot. He then stated that Rădescu now seemed to forget that a short time ago he had been only a "cashiered Army Colonel" and had since developed delusions of grandeur. Mihai mentioned the following items that had upset him with regard to Rădescu's behavior:
  - a. Rădescu arbitrarily tried to maintain the seat of the Committee in New York instead of Washington.
  - b. When discussions arose in the Committee which displeased Rădescu, he would adjourn the meeting.
  - c. Rădescu was supported by and, therefore, obligated to Nicolae Malaxa.
  - d. The best work and most organized thought which has been turned out by the Committee had always been accomplished during Rădescu's absences in Europe.
  - e. When Rădescu last came to Europe, presumably to visit Mihai, he spent about a month in Paris airing the difficulties existing within the Committee before he finally presented himself to the King.
3. Mihai stated that General Rădescu has taken the following unilateral actions without the agreement of the Committee:
  - a. He named a General Dumitru Petrescu to a post in Paris without informing the Committee.
  - b. He made statements in the name of the Committee without prior clearance.
  - c. He entered into exchanges of ~~information~~ with representatives of other countries without consulting the Committee.

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d. Recently a representative of the Polish anti-Communist group asked Mihai (in Italy) whether any reply had come as yet to an aide-memoire which he (the Pole) had given to Radescu in Paris. Mihai learned from the Pole that it was an important document concerning cooperation between the iron curtain countries. The King communicated with the Committee which finally replied that Radescu admitted having the paper but had informed them that he would handle it alone.

e. When Mihai addresses a matter for the Committee to Radescu, it does not usually get to the Committee. When he addresses a communication to the Committee for the attention of Radescu, the latter has been known to pick it up and put it in his pocket rather than discuss it in Committee.

4. Mihai stated that he was discouraged to see the disunity in the Committee between the Cretzianu-Visciani group and the Gafencu-Caramfil group, but he thought that their differences were reconcilable because they were practical men who must share a common interest in their work for the sake of their country. He added that this had been proved by the good reports he always had from the whole Committee when Radescu was absent.

5. The King said that he had been considering a trip to the United States to try to resolve the problems of the Committee; he wanted them to find a solution to their problems and work together without making any change in the personnel of the Committee. He said he felt that any change would be looked upon as an indication of disunity, and that he felt that it was his duty as the recognized leader to take a strong hand if necessary, to bring about unity. He then added that there were two reasons why he hesitated in going to the United States. First, he did not want to make the mistake, formerly made by his father, of meddling in politics, but preferred to try to maintain the position of a constitutional monarch by holding himself above politics. Second, the financial aspects of such a trip had to be considered.

6. Mihai stated that he was worried about the Committee in the following respects:

- a. Radescu has been said to have passed uncomplimentary remarks about him (Mihai); if any such remark were officially brought to his attention, Mihai would have no alternative but to request his resignation. Mihai added that he was aware of the fact that this might be a very dangerous thing to do because Radescu, with Malaxa's money, might try to form a separate committee. Two committees organized for the same ostensible purpose would become a laughing stock.
- b. The King had received reports that some of the other Committee members were out of patience with Radescu and might, on further provocation from Radescu, resign individually or in a group. This would present a situation almost as damaging as the formation of a rival committee.

7. He remarked that there was another question which was troubling him to a much lesser extent, and that is, the behavior of his uncle, former Prince Niccolae. He said that Niccolae had asked him for the right to use the title of Crown Prince of Rumania, which he was forced to refuse because under Rumanian law the fact that Niccolae had married without the consent of the Royal Family had caused him to forfeit any claim of succession to the throne. He said that Niccolae was simply Niccolae Hohenzollern at the present time. What bothered Mihai about Niccolae is that the latter has aligned himself with certain members of the old Iron Guard group in Germany, Austria, and France and has been making speeches before them in the name of the Rumanian Royal Family, implying that he is speaking for Mihai. The King stated that this was untrue.

8. Mihai also mentioned the fact that his father, former King Carol, had claimed that he (Carol) had never abdicated but had morally left the throne to his son temporarily and was, therefore, still to be considered as monarch. However, Mihai did not consider this to be a valid proposition or a serious threat to his position.

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